

## A SINFUL WASTE.

Good Food Alleged to Deny a Feature of American Households.

There are few households in the land but have a periodical recrudescence of economy in the matter of food supply. A big grocer's or butcher's bill immediately suggests that there should be some economy practiced "somewhere."

The present activity in the field of dietetics should spread valuable knowledge into every kitchen. It is already showing benefits in the matter of nutritious food versus medicine.

Housewives do not always realize that they have a prominent part to play in this grave question of the day, the "disposal of garbage." That responsibility lies within the domestic threshold, and to consign the collection of waste to the scavenger is not the limit of her power nor a self-satisfying conclusion. What she consigns does not concern her, and this "bete noir" found in every part of the land, a subject fraught with almost insurmountable difficulties to those whose business it is to find a healthful and quick disposal of garbage, is far more the business of the housekeeper than she is willing to acknowledge. We must go back of the garbage can to find the cause. American extravagance is proverbial the world over. We provide with a lavish hand. Unskilled and indifferent help waste accordingly. Expenditure for food in a large percentage of the middle and lower classes is estimated to take very often fully three-fourths of the income. Actual consumption and benefit derived from quantity supplied is notably small in this wasteful families.

Convincing proof is found in the overflowing garbage can. Lack of robustness among a certain class and the amount of debility afflicting a majority of people prove to investigators a want of proper nutriment to build up the overwrought body, which must endure somehow the strain and stress of American life and climate.

The unintelligent methods of poor servants, unskilled in handling food, is one cause of the effect. It is considered their prerogative to waste what does not suit their fancy. "Leavings" which may be the best portions from the mistress's table are not palatable to their taste, and so good material is speedily hidden from sight, more is called for, and a haphazard supply to keep Bridget good natured furnishes her with an abundance to overflow ash cans, clog pipes, choke traps, fill cesspools, draw vermin and offer culture as a medium for the ubiquitous microbe. Not only does offend nostrils and dangerous effluvia jeopardize health and obstruct sanitary measures.

It is just this waste in the world that has been the cause of plagues, pestilences and diseases. It is wasted time, strength, money, happiness and, too often, life.—Baltimore American.

## The Novel of Religion.

I heard long ago of an enterprising tradesman who desired to have the Old Testament at least broken into a series of romances. By others, very likely much less pious men, no version of these narratives can be tolerated except the ancient original versions. Yet many readers or hearers are so familiar with these, or think themselves so familiar (they would probably break down under examination), that something more "spicy" is required by them. I have read an American novel about the love affairs of Judah Iscariot and Mary Magdalene. It did not interest me. I own, but it did make me laugh. Probably a more pious student would have been edified. There is no accounting for tastes. Perhaps no Biblical novel has ever won critical applause or been reckoned a piece of literature. But such novels hit a large class of readers whose tastes in other matters is not always bad.

It would be interesting to know what the wits and critics of the restoration thought and said about "The Pilgrim's Progress." Probably they never looked into the cheap little book at all, the book which has outlived Etherege and Sedley and Rochester and the rest of them. Of course it does not by any means follow that every religious novel read by the people who do read such things and neglected by critics is on a level with Bunyan's masterpiece.—Andrew Lang in Longman's Magazine.

## What is an Edition?

What is an edition? Does it consist of 1,000 volumes or of 500 or 50 or 5? The word is not a technical term like "gross" or "dozen" or any like expression bearing a fixed numerical significance, and there is, of course, no reason why it should mean anything from the lowest to the highest of these numbers, according to the taste and fancy, or it may be the tactics, of the particular publisher who employs it. Only now that that enterprising person shows himself so anxious to keep the public regularly informed as to the sales of the works issuing from his house it might be as well to come to some understanding on this point. We know what is meant when we read that Miss Abnera Daring's new novel is "in its twentieth edition," whereas the statement that it is "in its forty-fifth edition," conveys to us simply no information at all.—London Graphic.

## Bracelets Once More.

A great hope is being cherished that women are inclining to bracelets once more. This seems not improbable. The decree has gone forth that sleeves are to be scarcely below the elbow. This being true there is a considerable expense left for ornament, for the gloves cannot be always worn. In any case bracelets are cheaper than gloves, and women, though on pleasure bent, still have frugal minds.—Jeweler's Circular.

## Mozart.

Mozart was very small, being only a little over 5 feet in height. His face was thin, and the size of his nose was apparently exaggerated by the attenuation of his features. He wore his hair long and drew up in a cue, according to the custom of his day. His mouth was small and his face clean shaven.

## Elevator Girls.

There are three buildings in Philadelphia in which the elevators are exclusively run by girls. They are the Woman's Christian association's big building, at Eighteenth and Arch streets, the Girls' High school and the Normal school. In the first building all the employees are women except the engineer and fireman.

**The World's Fair Tests**  
showed no baking powder so pure or so great in leavening power as the Royal.

## A MODERN NAVAL BATTLE.

The Spectacle Is a Grand One and the Experience Thrilling.

A hyman has no conception of the awful nature of, battle in modern naval vessels. Even the cruisers have steel sides, and the air of the enclosed spaces is very confined. The din made by the impact of a heavy projectile against these metal sides is awful beyond description. I wore cotton in my ears, but in spite of that, am still deaf from that cause. The engineers in the Chen-Yuen stuck to their work even when the temperature of the engine room was above 100 degrees F. The skin of their hands and arms was actually roasted off, and every man was blinded for life, the slight being actually scared out.

Late in the action, after my hair had been burned off and my eyes so impaired by injected blood that I could only see out of one of them, and then only by lifting the lid with my fingers, I was desirous of seeing how the enemy was delivering his fire. As I groped my way around the protected deck a hundred pound shell pierced the armor about 18 inches in front of my hand. In a second my hand touching the steel was so burned that part of the skin was left upon the armor. That shows how intense is the heat engendered by the impact of a shot and how rapidly the steel conducts that heat.

One shell struck an open gun shield of the Chen-Yuen early in the action, and glancing thence passed through the open port. Seven gunners were killed from the shell, and that shot. Early in the fight the main gun in our foretop was silenced. The holes pierced by a shell could be seen from the deck. After the fight we found the officer and men on duty there all dead and frightfully mangled. That one shell had wrought the havoc.

The detonations of the heavy cannon and the impact of hostile projectiles produce concussions that actually rend the clothing off. The Chinese soldiers deserve all credit for their courage and obedience in that action. No duty was too difficult or dangerous. When the Chen-Yuen's forecastle was ablaze from Jap shells, I ordered several officers to cross the shell swept place to fight the fire. They shirked that duty, but when I called upon the men to volunteer to go they did it promptly, and the ship was saved. It was while on this duty that a shell passing between my legs threw me aloft and let me down upon the deck with such violence that I became unconscious and was out of the fight. All of the officers, however, were not cowards. On my ship were several who had been educated in this country, and they were as brave and devoted as men could be. Others, however, were in the safest place they could find amidst ships.—Captain McGiffin in Mail and Express.

## Incandescent Lamp Cleaner.

Many people blame the central station for the poor light from their incandescent lamps, when the fault is really their own. They allow their lamps to get dirty. It has been shown that one day's accumulation of dust on incandescent bulbs cuts off 5 per cent of the light, so the result of a few days' neglect can easily be guessed. As a means of removing to a great extent the frequent complaints of poor light a central station recommends the use of a lamp cleaner, which greatly facilitates the process of dusting the bulbs. To a four handle is attached a strong wire framework, which carries a number of felt mittens. By forcing the frame over each lamp and giving the handle a few turns the dust on the glass is removed, leaving the bulb as clean as when it left the factory. Each cleaner is provided with a set of rubber friction pads that will, when suitably placed on the mittens, remove and replace burned out lamps. The handle can be extended so as to reach lamps at any distance. This device makes the cleaning of lamps a very quick and easy task.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## Regret That Came Too Late.

The London Musical Herald tells a queer story about Jack Wilson's tomb in the Little Cloisters at Westminster abbey. Wilson was Shakespeare's tenor. He was probably the first to sing "Bishop No More, Ladies," and he died at the age of 78, in 1673. The inscription on his tomb at the abbey was much obliterated, and under the direction of an antiquary a man was employed to recut the letters. The antiquary stood looking over him, so that he should make no mistake, and to make the time go pleasantly he expatiated at great length to the workman upon the grandeur and merits of the deceased. The man eventually stopped his work, and looking up at the antiquary said, "I wish, sir, we had known that he was such a swell before we ran that there drain pipe through him."

## The Missing Birds.

The bluebirds, yellow birds and blackbirds seen from New York this year. Reports from careful ornithologists in many counties show that these birds have not appeared this spring as usual. Walter Burke of Batavia writes: "Where are the blackbirds? These birds in past years congregated in large numbers in a little grove near my residence and filled the air with their melodious singing, but now it is all hushed and still."

The Livingston Republican says: "The absence of bluebirds has been commented on by several papers, and, come to think of it, we haven't noticed any bluebirds or yellow birds either, but the orioles are flashing through the foliage in considerable numbers and occasionally filling a few bars of song."—Buffalo Enquirer.

## Reserve in Death Notices.

One notices more and more with every year how the age is often and oftener dropped from death announcements. This is in strict accordance with the growing reserve of the individual who keeps his private affairs to himself more closely, even in matters of no direct importance. It is odd that such a private feeling should have stronger side by side with the greater publicity of one's affairs through the wider notice taken of them in the press generally with society and other mention once undreamed of.—Philadelphia Press.

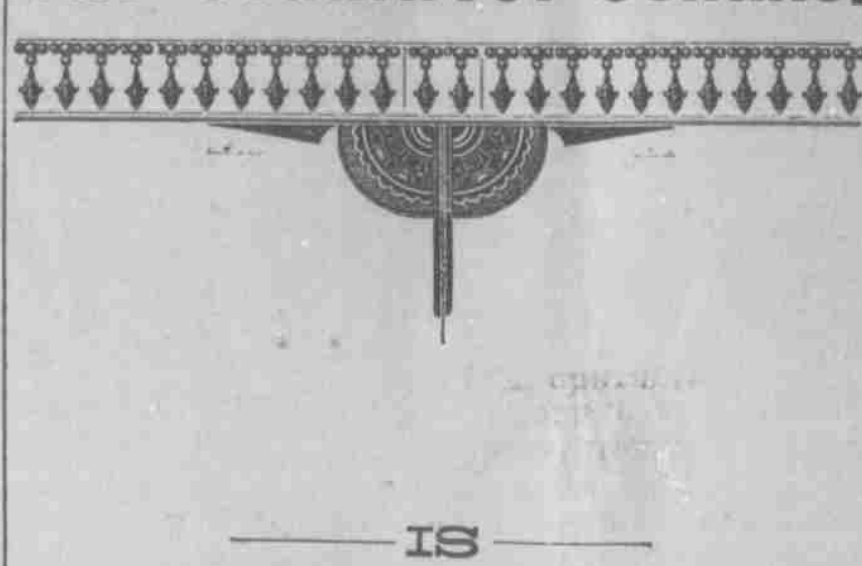
## Uncongenial.

A washerwoman applied for help to a gentleman, who gave her a note to the manager of a certain club. It read as follows: "Dear Mr. K.—This woman wants washing." Very shortly the answer came back: "Dear Sir—I dare say she does, but I don't fancy the job."—London Tit-Bits.

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Are not surpassed by any office in the southwest. Our prices are as low as first-class work will permit. Send in your orders.

## ONE HEAD UHHER.

The Ways Wherein He Differed From Others of His Calling.

It is as old as the proverb that the cobbler's children are always poorly shod.

The restaurant man goes home for dinner, and the bartender is a total abstemious.

The druggist may patronize the faith cure and the railway man knows of no greater luxury than a ride in a buggy. The street car conductor is glad to get a day off, so he can take a long walk.

A more remarkable case than any of these is that of the head usher in the theater, and one theater in particular. Probably every playgoer in Chicago knows him. The title of "head usher" does him an injustice. He is more like a host or the chief of a reception committee.

There are head ushers who pounce upon you, grab the coupons, thrust them back into your fumbled hands and shout, "First aisle to the right!"

There are other head ushers who tell you to hurry up or step lively. They give loud warning that all coupons must be ready.

They shout, "Hey, there!" and are constantly distracted because of the immense responsibility which they imagine is resting upon them.

As soon as a stately young man gets into a box office or is engaged as an usher, he begins to imagine that he owns the house, the company and a good part of the frontage in the block.

But the exceptional head usher is calm, polite, attentive and solicitous. No matter how rapidly the crowd may pour in, it seems that every one who comes receives some courtesy at his hands.

He doesn't shout or grab and the small children are not afraid of him.

The most remarkable thing about this model master of ceremonies, however, is that he knows very little about actors or plays.

The other evening, when the house was crowded and the performance was being received with noisy approval, a man who came into the foyer between acts remarked to him, "Well, it's a funny show."

"I dare say," he replied; "the house seems to like it."

"Didn't you see it?"

"No; I was out here all the time."

"Is that so? Don't you step inside to see the performance?"

"Oh, no. My duties keep me here. In the 15 years that I have been in this position I have never seen a performance."

At first the man wouldn't believe it, but it was a fact just the same.—Chicago Record.

His Thirst Was Very Precious.

Some years ago while traveling from Kansas City to St. Louis the seat in front of me was occupied by a typical cattleman and a man who looked like an eastern clergyman. The western man, a whole sonled, genial fellow, after telling his companion all about his western ranch and about the business which called him to Chicago, reached down in his grip and drew forth a bottle of generous proportions.

"Partner," said he, "there's the best liquor west of Kansas City. Throw a bookie into you and give me your opinion."

The clerical looking man, though terribly shocked, managed to say, "Friend, I have not drunk for 40 years."

The Texan jumped from his seat and exclaimed: "Great guns! I would give \$1,000 for your thirst."—Chicago Times-Herald.

## Ready For the Cholera.

Some years ago there was an outbreak of cholera in France, and instructions were forwarded to the mayor of a certain village to take all necessary precautions, as the epidemic was rapidly spreading.

At first our worthy magistrate did not know what to do. After awhile, however, he reported that he was ready to receive the dread visitor. Upon inquiry being made, it was discovered that his orders a sufficient number of graves had been dug in the local cemetery to bury the entire parish if required.—Nervica.

## Calm and the Storm.

"Mrs. Dasher is a very quiet dresser, isn't she?"

"Mercy, no. She storms at her maid until she can be heard away in the top flat."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## Succinct Definition.

"Mike," said Plodding Pete, who had been reading from a stray scrap of paper, "what does 'dormier resort' mean?"

Meandering Mike looked at him with the supercilious contempt of superior knowledge and replied, "Work."—Washington Star.

The Ashley river, in South Carolina, was named in honor of Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper, afterward the famous Earl of Shaftesbury. The Indians called the stream Kiawah, a word of doubtful significance.

Ruffles for the wrists were originally called hand ruffs.

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Eureka Chemical & Mfg. Co., La Crosse, Wis.

Office of THE PIONEER PRESS COMPANY, C. W. HANCOCK, Editor.

801 Main St., St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 7, 1904.

Eureka Chemical & Mfg. Co., La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Sir:—I have been a tobacco fiend for many years, and during the past two years have smoked fifteen to twenty cigars regularly every day. My whole nervous system became affected, until my physicians told me I must give up the use of tobacco for the time being. I have tried the so-called "Kestey Cure," "No-To-Bac," and various other remedies, but without success, until I accidentally learned of your "Baco-Curo." Three weeks ago today I commenced using your preparation, and today I consider myself completely cured. I am in perfect health, and the horrible craving for tobacco, which every inveterate smoker fully appreciates, has completely left me. I consider your "Baco-Curo" simply wonderful, and can fully recommend it to you.

Yours truly,  
G. W. HANCOCK.

## Customs of Polish Women.

In Poland princesses and peasants wear around the throat several rows of huge coral beads which are supposed to be lucky—the bigger the beads the greater the luck—and the dingy looking merchant of the "Zwierzeska" (Jewish quarter of the town), at Cracow, realizes small fortunes from the sale of these coral necklaces, for a Pole of the lower classes will almost sooner go without food or without her beloved "vodka" (brandy) than forego this cherished ornament. The "grande dame" is so loath to separate from her lucky beads that when donning evening dress with its paraphernalia of pearls and diamonds, she carries them in her pocket or in the inside of her corset.

While on the subject of Poland, I may add that the orthodox Jewesses there—with whom the country literally swarms—are easily distinguished, apart from any physical mark of race, by the silken wig which they are forced to adopt on the morrow of their wedding day. Their religion exacts that on the wedding night the tresses should fall under the lites of a pair of silver scissors, and the massing is so complete that, when close to the scalp, they conceal the skull under a hideous construction of coarse silken strands, highly crumpled in most cases with bands of black velvet sewed with small pearls and turquoise.—New York Tribune.

## Montrond.

Railkes asked Montrond once if it were true that Louis Philippe gave him a pension. He answered, "Yes, 30,000 francs a year for speaking well of him in the clubs and in England." Montrond before his death passed through the form of a conversion and made his peace with the church. When the priest asked him, "You probably in old times uttered many pleasanties against religion?" "No," said he coldly, "I have been accused, and justly accused, in my lifetime of many vices. I have never been accused of being an infidel."

Montrond was an inveterate gambler. One day he had a quarrel with some people he had been playing with at cards. He flew to Talleyrand in a state of great agitation. "Would you believe it," said he, "they threatened to throw me out of the window!" "I have always advised you," said Talleyrand very quietly, "never to play cards except on the ground floor."—San Francisco Argonaut.

## Shirts and Waists.

There is a curious "shimmering" effect in many of the silks which is very soft, pretty and becoming. A pale yellow ground, with a pattern of roses, will have a silvery shimmer over the whole thing, which makes it almost impossible to tell just what the exact shade of color or colors really is. These silks are now all the rage for the fancy waists, and also for the full fronts to be worn with gowns made with jacket effects.

It is not necessary to have skirts and waists of the same silk. For instance, a fancy silk skirt, in which there is any one predominating color, can be made with a silk waist of a plaid color, or with an all lace waist over the same color as the skirt. The advantage of this is that the plain silk waists covered with lace can be worn with all sorts and varieties of gowns, while the silk waists which match some one costume are, generally speaking, only pretty with that particular costume. Fancy effects are so much the order of the day that it is really worth while to make the best of this economical fashion when we have it with us.—Exchange.



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